

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to define the base plate of the spot footing of the present invention as being an unsymmetrical base plate (3) provided with a single mounting hole (7) and to define the top plate of the spot footing as a closed unsymmetrical top plate. These amendments are supported by the description of the spot footing on pages 5 and 6 and by the drawings (Figs. 2 and 5). Additional amendments have been made to claim 1 (and claims dependent thereon) for clarity and precision.

Claim 5 has been rewritten in independent form as new claim 9. New claim 9 is supported by the embodiment of the spot footing shown in Fig. 3 and described in the specification on page 5.

The claims as amended distinguish over the trolley pole base construction of Wall, US 1,939,530, both structurally and functionally, and are patentable under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). The differences between the invention of Wall and the spot footing of the present invention are discussed below.

First, the technical fields are totally different. Wall is related to metallic poles to support electric lights, etc., which poles are fastened to a concrete base or foundation with the inventive means of Wall, the purpose of which is to fasten the electric light pole with bolts to the roof of the invented part and

then the inventive part is attached with basic bolts to a concrete foundation whereby the inventive part bears the bending forces caused by the pole and the vertical compressive forces. The second and important feature of the invention of Wall is to operate as an elastic structure in a traffic collision situation whereby the inventive part and especially its wall construction is elastic and acts as a deformation and breaking features first when a car has a collision with it.

The invention in Wall is especially related to these deformable wall constructions in collisions. One part protects the car and the passengers from forces of inertia when this part breaks first before the pole. This part cannot be cast inside the pole but it has to be left outside, i.e., above the concrete. Otherwise the invention in Wall does not operate.

On the other hand, the present invention relates to a spot footing designed especially for securing a precast concrete or timber column to a foundation and/or for extending such a column. The spot footing is always cast inside the concrete and it transfers the attractive force directed to the roof (top plate) from the internal forces of the column via the casing to the foundation. No bending forces are applied to the spot footing and no lateral load is directed to it, such as from a collision with a

car.

The following specific features and differences are further noted.

Technical field and Object

Wall and the present invention solve totally different problems. The present invention, as defined in claims, is a spot footing. The recitation in the preamble of the claims gives life and meaning to the structure recited in the claims and is a limitation that limits the structure to that dimensioned and configured to be used as a spot footing. The structure of Wall cannot be used as a spot footing.

Placement

The spot footing of the present invention must always be cast inside concrete, otherwise it does not operate to transfer the forces as designed.

Wall cannot be cast inside concrete; otherwise the elastic properties do not operate to properly transfer forces.

Force transfer in the structure

The spot footing of the present invention transfers the attractive force (that is directed from the concrete column to the top plate) to the foundation. Wall transfers the compressive force from the light pole to the top plate as well as the pole's

bending torque to the foundation but brakes before the pole due to the horizontal force caused by a car collision.

Thus the structure of pole base construction of Wall and that of the spot footing of the present invention are different and transfer totally different forces and cannot be replaced with one another.

Structural components

The form of the structure

The spot footing of the present invention has a cylindrical unsymmetrical space with steel plates at the upper and lower end which mostly are located inside the cylindrical part and protrude from it only by one quarter unsymmetrically in a direction to which the cylinder is totally open.

Wall has a cut conical formed symmetrical closed space having steel plates at the upper and lower ends which protrude symmetrically from the cone. This space is actually "double symmetrical" and totally closed.

The top plate

The top plate of the spot footing of the first embodiment of present invention as recited in claim 1 and the claims dependent thereon is an unsymmetrically formed closed (i.e., without openings) plate onto which anchor bars are fastened in order to

transfer the attractive force of the top plate via the anchor bars to concrete. The force transfer from the plate to the column is realized via concrete.

The top plate in Wall is a typical steel profile junction end plate with necessary bolt holes for fastening the part that is to be fastened and further holes for electric cables. The force transfer from the plate to the pole is realized by means of screws. There has to be at least four screws in order to get an operating structure. It is not possible to fasten the pole with a number of screws that is less than four.

The structure of the wall

The structure of the wall of the spot footing of the present invention is realized with a single steel plate that is bent to its form, the operation of which is to transfer the attractive force between the upper and lower plates and the purpose of the form of the plate is to transfer all the forms that are directed to it.

The object of the wall structure in Wall is to form a breakable structure that will break in a collision and that is composed of several parts that are formed in a certain way. This structures does not correspond to the wall of the spot footing of the present invention, structurally or functionally.

The bottom plate

The bottom plate of the spot footing of the present invention is an unsymmetrically formed plate into which a foundation bolt is fastened in order to transfer the bottom plate's attractive force to concrete. Only one bolt (and one bolt hole) is needed that is sufficient to transfer the forces. Several bolts or screws cannot be used because of the casing form to be used.

The bottom plate in Wall is a typical steel profile joint end plate with necessary bolt holes in order to fasten the part that should be fastened to it. The transfer of forces from the plate to the foundation is realized with screws. There has to be at least four screws in order to get an operating structure. With less number of screws the pole cannot be fastened.

For the above reasons, Wall does not disclose a spot footing or other structure which includes the structural elements of the spot footing as defined in the claims of the present application. Removal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102 rejection and issuance of a notice of allowability of the claims of the application are in order and are requested.

The foregoing is believed to be a complete and proper response to the Office Action dated January 9, 2009.

In the event that this paper is not considered to be timely filed, applicant hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of

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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

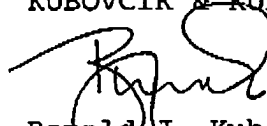
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time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to Deposit
Account No. 111833.

In the event any additional fees are required, please also
charge Deposit Account No. 111833.

Respectfully submitted,

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